

# COMMISSION VIEWS AND NEWS

December 2021



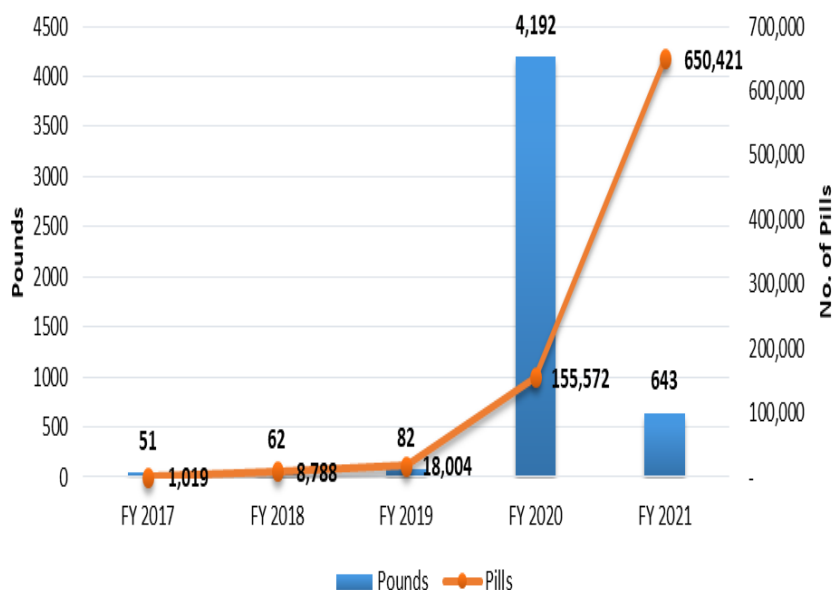
## How Drug Task Forces around the State are Battling Illicit Drug Crimes and Keeping Arizona Safe

*ACJC Publishes its Annual EDGE Report*

Have you ever wondered how law enforcement is truly tackling the issue of illicit drug crimes in Arizona? Every year, ACJC publishes its **Enhanced Drug Gang Enforcement (EDGE)** report that outlines what each funded project is accomplishing across the state and how they are utilizing the ACJC's drug control grant. One significant development in 2020 and 2021 has been the considerable increase in the number of fentanyl seizures both in volume and pills seized. This is just one interesting finding and there are many more contained within this report. If you are interested in learning more

visit [www.azcjc.gov](http://www.azcjc.gov)

**Figure 13a: Fentanyl Seizures**



Arizona Criminal Justice Commission 2021 EDGE Report

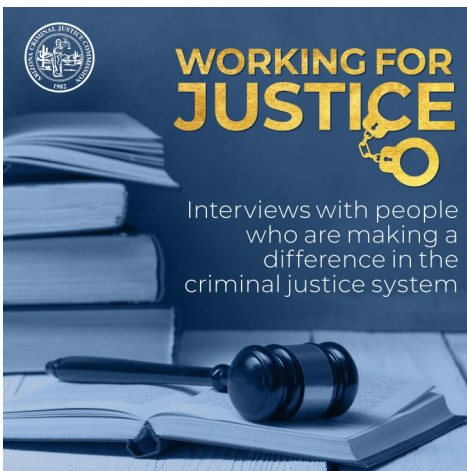
Table 2 Total FY 2021 Approved Awards by County			
<b>Apache County</b>			
Apprehension	\$225,301		
Adjudication	\$29,619		
Prosecution	\$90,635		
Total	\$345,555		
<b>Cochise County</b>			
Apprehension	\$122,971		
Adjudication	\$44,282		
Prosecution	\$152,218		
Total	\$319,471		
<b>Coconino County</b>			
Apprehension	\$283,494		
Adjudication	\$50,417		
Prosecution	\$132,461		
Total	\$466,372		
<b>Gila County</b>			
Apprehension	\$331,654		
Adjudication	\$58,634		
Prosecution	\$66,567		
Total	\$456,855		
<b>Graham County</b>			
Apprehension	\$26,934		
Adjudication	\$58,493		
Prosecution	\$55,000		
Total	\$140,427		
<b>Greenlee County</b>			
Apprehension	\$31,967		
Adjudication	\$0		
Prosecution	\$42,849		
Total	\$74,816		
<b>La Paz County</b>			
Apprehension	\$73,643		
Adjudication	\$20,790		
Prosecution	\$70,426		
Total	\$164,859		
<b>Maricopa County</b>			
Apprehension	\$116,525		
Adjudication	\$258,954		
Prosecution	\$1,076,521		
Total	\$1,452,000		
<b>Mohave County</b>			
Apprehension	\$336,832		
Adjudication	\$152,265		
Prosecution	\$156,292		
Total	\$645,389		
<b>Navajo County</b>			
Apprehension	\$238,833		
Adjudication	\$141,192		
Prosecution	\$123,117		
Total	\$503,142		
<b>Pima County</b>			
Apprehension	\$687,640		
Forensic Analysis	\$65,307		
Adjudication	\$244,483		
Prosecution	\$692,621		
Total	\$1,690,051		
<b>Pinal County</b>			
Apprehension	\$141,380		
Adjudication	\$144,180		
Prosecution	\$184,771		
Total	\$470,331		
<b>Santa Cruz County</b>			
Apprehension	\$43,688		
Adjudication	\$0		
Prosecution	\$0		
Total	\$43,688		
<b>Yavapai County</b>			
Apprehension	\$353,946		
Adjudication	\$80,314		
Prosecution	\$120,178		
Total	\$554,438		
<b>Yuma County</b>			
Apprehension	\$241,556		
Adjudication	\$23,656		
Prosecution	\$263,373		
Total	\$528,585		
<b>Statewide</b>			
Adjudication	\$29,189		
Corrections	\$100,000		
Forensic Analysis	\$380,233		
Prosecution	\$637,429		
CJRP	\$186,280		
RX Medicaid Fraud	\$102,000		
Total	\$1,435,131		



## Do You Want to be “In the Know” all things Criminal Justice?

Are you interested in learning more about the criminal justice system, a career in criminal justice, or learning what is happening on the national scene with experts in criminal justice?

ACJC has you covered with our new podcast series:



You can find all of ACJC's podcasts on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Google Podcasts or by visiting [www.azcjc.gov/about-us/podcasts](http://www.azcjc.gov/about-us/podcasts)







**ONWARD AND UPWARD...**  
**Marc Peoples, Criminal Justice Improvement Program Manager**

***“Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection, we can catch excellence.”***

**Vince Lombardi**

This quote is perfect for the work Marc Peoples personified with ACJC. Even though he has moved on to another career in another state, his leadership and what he achieved over his seven years was impactful.

“Marc was such a valuable addition to our team and to the criminal justice community,” stated Executive Director Andy LeFevre. “We are going to miss him but are truly happy for his new position in St. Louis.”

During his time with ACJC, he tackled tough issues such as leading a change initiative for the fingerprinting law in Arizona, implemented mobile fingerprinting devices in courtrooms to streamline court procedures, spearheaded the implementation of a new mental health indicator system, launched the online Arizona Protective Order Initiation Notification Tool (AZPOINT) which lead to greater protections for survivors of crime. He was also in the process of managing various new initiatives such as e-warrants, conditions of release systems, and a new and improved victim notification system. Additionally, during his time at ACJC, he worked to secure ACJC as the state administrator for three criminal justice grant programs: Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program, National Criminal History Improvement Program, and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System Act Record Improvement Program.

Marc leaves ACJC to become the new deputy director for St. Louis, Missouri County Department of Human Services.



## **ACJC's DATA VISUALIZATION CENTER—The More You Know**

Over the last few years, ACJC has been researching ways to provide a comprehensive and transparent platform to easily review criminal justice data for policymakers, researchers, and the general public. In 2019, the Data Visualization Center (DVC) was launched and included data for the Arizona Youth Survey, Deaths in Custody, Victim Assistance, and the Drug, Gang, and Crime Control. With the passage of HB2166 in 2021, ACJC is also undertaking a statewide audit of all criminal justice systems and data to determine what currently exists and how it could be incorporated into one system under one umbrella.

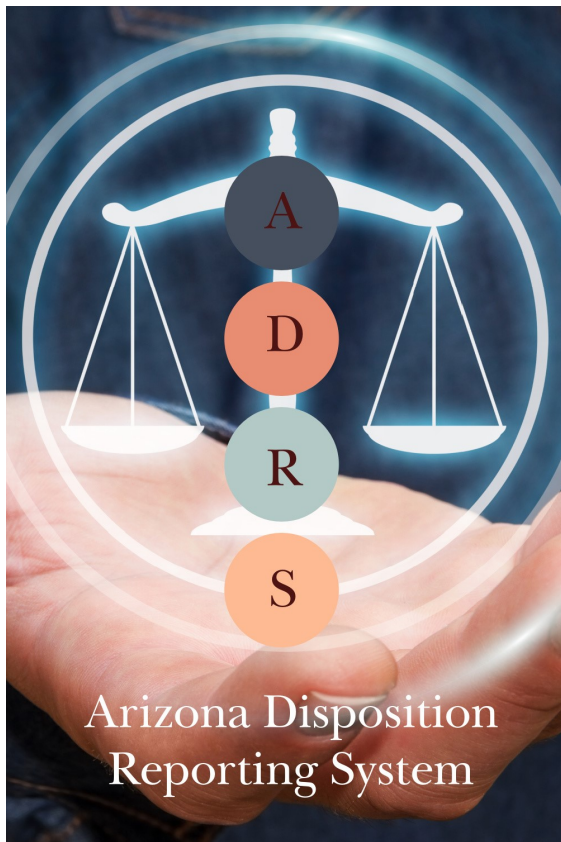
To learn more about this resource, visit [www.azcjc.gov/data-visualization-center](http://www.azcjc.gov/data-visualization-center)



### **Sasha Allen, Criminal Justice Systems Improvement Grants Coordinator**

Hello, my name is Sasha Allen. I have a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, and I will be graduating in November with my Master's degree in Human Services. Before moving here, I worked for the State of Nebraska in several different departments like Medicaid and Child Support. I am excited to be a part of the team here and look forward to the adventures Arizona has to offer!





In recent years, Arizona has prioritized improving its criminal history records. Per Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) §41-1750.A1, the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) is mandated to collect accurate and complete data for all arrests and subsequent case disposition information for felony offenses, offenses relating to driving under the influence, sexual offenses, and domestic violence-related offenses. The collected information is stored electronically in the state criminal history record system, called the Arizona Computerized Criminal History (ACCH) repository, and each arrest charge is matched to the associated case disposition information for that charge by way of fingerprints.

The goal of the ADRS project has been to develop and Implement a data exchange system to allow the electronic transfer and submission of criminal history record information to the ACCH repository within 24 hours. The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) utilized a phased approach in improving ADRS reporting by focusing first on county attorney's offices across the

state with the intention of engaging city prosecutor's offices for future phases. In addition, ACJC has provided funding to several county attorney's offices in an effort to upgrade their case management systems to report ADRS information to the ACCH repository in a more accurate and timely manner. Five counties have completed the project and are submitting electronic dispositions to DPS and eight counties remain in various phases of implementation (e.g., testing, upgraded CMS installation, etc.).

Since ACJC began the ADRS project with the county attorney's offices, the state as a whole has seen a significant improvement in the completeness of criminal history records in the ACCH repository. From CY2016 to CY2020, the number of arrest charges in the ACCH repository with at least one disposition increased from 59 percent to 78.1 percent, a 30 percent increase during the reported time period. As noted above, ACJC is currently still in the implementation phase with several agencies and once completed, nearly 90 percent of the county attorney's offices in Arizona will be submitting electronic dispositions to DPS; in turn, improving the overall quality of Arizona's criminal history records which benefits all Arizona criminal justice agencies.

For more information on this project, contact Shayla Gilleland at [SFordyce@azcjc.gov](mailto:SFordyce@azcjc.gov) or 602-364-1161

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